



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

State House  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-1196  
401-222-2080

Donald L. Carcieri  
Governor

21 May 2009

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The Chrysler reorganization plan designed by your administration, while well-intentioned, is ill-conceived and is creating severe economic consequences for the state of Rhode Island and its largest Jeep dealer, Tarbox Jeep.

Tarbox Motors is a three-generation family-owned business and one of the largest and most successful auto dealers in the state. Without warning, the dealership received a letter from Chrysler which abruptly cancelled their franchise agreement. The results are the loss of 55 direct jobs, \$3,000,000 in payroll and over \$2,200,000 in sales taxes to the state.

With Rhode Island's unemployment rate topping 11% and our state facing a critical budget deficit, this reorganization plan is creating serious and avoidable problems at the state and local level. The only winners appear to be members of the UAW while the losers are the secured creditors, franchisees and employees of the hundreds of dealers across the country.

I have serious concerns about the legality of this plan and the unprecedented intrusion by the Federal Government into a private business enterprise. While you have stated this plan will give Chrysler "a new lease on life" what it does is favor the UAW by giving them 55% majority ownership of this iconic American automotive company. Government and unions should not be in the business of running companies; the marketplace should decide which dealers survive during these difficult economic times.

President Obama  
21 May 2009  
Page Two

I respectfully ask you to reconsider the Chrysler plan and allow the current bankruptcy laws to prevail in the reorganization of this company going forward. Successful auto dealers, like Tarbox Jeep, are where the rubber truly meets the road. This plan bypasses their rights and deprives them and their hardworking employees the opportunity to compete for their share of the American dream.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald L. Carcieri", followed by a horizontal line.

Donald L. Carcieri

Cc: Senator Jack Reed  
Senator Sheldon Whitehouse  
Congressman Patrick Kennedy  
Congressman James Langevin